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The navy seems to take about four or five days, the air force a little longer, and the army ten days to two weeks. During this time, men are kept doing literally nothing, and they do nothing except curse the government. It is a period of general let-down. In the last war we were boarded on the other side, and the discharge procedure took, in my case, less than an hour in all on this side of the water. While it is probably necessary that boarding should take place on this side, documentation should be completed so that a man's papers are complete when the procedure starts. The fact that there should be such wide variations in the three services shows that it can be done very much more expeditiously than it is being done by the army. The utmost effort should be made to get the time in all services to two or three days. Further, all the operations of explanation, boarding, payment, personal guidance, rehabilitation and employment should be streamlined and carried out, as far as possible, in one place.

The handling of demobilization procedure has an important effect on the morale of the men while they continue to be in the armed forces. If a man is dealt with unjustly or incompetently, word of it in a magnified form is spread back along the grapevine, right to the men in the theatre of war. If, on the other hand, they feel that they are competently handled once they start, they are more ready to wait for the start.